



July 27, 2009

Public Input Needed for Countywide Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

A recently approved grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will help Contra Costa County and many of the local jurisdictions and special districts develop a Countywide Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan will enable the county and the cities to take ongoing action to reduce or eliminate long-term risks to human life, property and the environment from many types of natural hazards, such as earthquakes, flooding, and wildfires.

Funding from this Multi-Hazard Mitigation grant is earmarked to develop a multi-hazard mitigation plan compliant with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, which was established by Congress, and emphasizes the need for States and communities to prepare for possible disasters by developing a multi-hazard mitigation plans for existing and future buildings.

Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services, 13 cities, and 27 special purpose districts working with Tetra Tech, Inc. (Tetra Tech) are participating in the process of creating a county-wide multi-hazard mitigation plan, or updating their existing multi-hazard mitigation plans. Tetra Tech has with the help of the planning partners, collected and analyzed data to estimate the economic loss and population disruption caused by anticipated disaster events. For example, based on preliminary information, an earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale on the Hayward-Rodgers Creek fault could cause \$3.5 billion in damages to structures and their contents and displace almost 1,300 households in Contra Costa County.

Public input is an important part of the planning process. We have scheduled four public meetings:

- Wednesday, July 29, 2009, 6:00pm - 9:00pm, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, 5019 Imhoff Place (Multi Purpose room), Martinez, CA 94553
- Thursday, July 30, 2009, 6:00pm - 9:00pm, Council Chamber/Community Center, 880 Tennent Ave., Pinole, CA 94564
- Tuesday, August 11, 2009, 6:00pm to 9:00pm, San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94598
- Thursday, August 13, 2009, 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Antioch Police Department, Community Room, 3000 L Street, Antioch, CA 94509

Please refer to the County website, <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us>, for additional information regarding hazard mitigation planning efforts.

Once completed, the plan will go before the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, the California Emergency Management Agency and FEMA for approval. Once the county, cities, and the special districts have completed their plans, they'll have access to FEMA funds in case of a disaster. Those entities that have an existing multi-hazard mitigation plan and are in the process of updating their plans currently have access to FEMA funds.

For more information contact:

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